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(MIDEAST)

JERUSALEM (UPI) -- ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER YITZHAK RABIN WENT BEFORE A SPECIAL SESSION OF PARLIAMENT TODAY AND DEFENDED THE PROPOSED INTERIM PEACE AGREEMENT WITH EGYPT AGAINST ANGRY CHARGES FROM THE RIGHT-WING LIKUD PARTY THAT THE UNITED STATES WAS FORCING IT DOWN ISRAEL'S THROAT.

WHILE THE LIKUD WAS DEMANDING RABIN'S RESIGNATION, SOME 50 WOMEN GATHERED OUTSIDE THE KNESSET BUILDING IN JERUSALEM AND DEMONSTRATED AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICIES. THEY CARRIED SIGNS READING "NO MUNICH HERE," AND "WE ARE NOT DOGS TO JUMP THROUGH KISSINGER'S HOOP."

SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER, AFTER TALKS WITH PRESIDENT FORD IN VAIL, COLO., SAID HE WAS OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THE RESUMPTION OF HIS MIDDLE EAST SHUTTLE MISSION. HE ARRIVES IN ISRAEL THURSDAY AND EGYPTIAN REPORTS SAID HE WOULD MEET PRESIDENT ANWAR SADAT IN ALEXANDRIA ON FRIDAY.

THE KNESSET SESSION WAS ONE OF THE ANGRIST SESSIONS IN MEMORY AND JEERS AND CATCALLS FREQUENTLY INTERRUPTED RABIN'S HALF-HOUR PRESENTATION.

"KISSINGER'S ARRIVAL DOES NOT MEAN THAT THERE IS A FINISHED FACT AT HAND, AND IT DOES NOT GIVE FINAL APPROVAL TO AN AGREEMENT WHICH IS ALREADY ACHIEVED," RABIN SAID.

"WE WILL SIGN AN INTERIM AGREEMENT ONLY IF WE WILL BE CONVINCED THAT IT WILL BE TO THE BETTERMENT OF ISRAEL'S NEEDS," RABIN SAID. "THE ANTICIPATED VISIT IN ISRAEL AND EGYPT IS ACCEPTED BECAUSE OF OUR CLEAR WILL TO REACH AN INTERIM AGREEMENT WITH BENEFITS FOR ISRAEL AND EGYPT AS A STEP IN THE PROGRESS TOWARDS PEACE."

OPPOSITION LEADER MENACHEM BEGIN OPENED THE SPECIAL KNESSET SESSION WITH AN APPEAL TO THE RABIN GOVERNMENT TO RESIGN.

"THIS IS AN EXAMPLE NOT OF AN AGREEMENT IN STAGES, BUT A SURRENDER IN STAGES," BEGIN SAID. HE SAID THE THREE-YEAR TERM OF THE AGREEMENT WOULD BE "AN INVITATION TO ADDITIONAL PRESSURES AND CONCESSIONS WITHOUT PEACE."

IN HIS REPLY RABIN SAID "ANY ATTEMPT TO CHARACTERIZE OUR POSITION AS A CATASTROPHE MUST BE SEEN AS AN IRRESPONSIBLE CHARACTERIZATION, ONE WHICH DOESN'T FIT THE REALITY."

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